Reduction of posts in the Railways

707. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to the news-item published in Statesman (Calcutta) dated the 13th June, 1992 regarding reduction of posts in the Railways; and

(b) if so, what is the factual position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A number of studies on manpower planning have been done since cost of manpower constitutes 62 per cent of working expenditure. The studies are all aimed at improving productivity of staff and to ensure that people with right skills are available at the right time. Recruitment will be done on this basis. No instructions have been issued to re-recruitment by 20,000 annually as stated in the newspaper report.

Deteriorating conditions of the coaches in the trains

708. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the deteriorating conditions of the II class and 3-tier coaches in the trains leading to immense misery to the passengers;

(b) whether the maintenance of the coaches is commensurate with the rising demands of more passenger trains; and

(c) if not, in what manner Government propose to tackle the situation where the maintenance of the coaches is getting poorer day by day?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There is no such deterioration.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise. The Railways take all possible steps to maintain the coaches upto the standard laid down by the Passenger Amenities Committee. However, rampant vandalism/thefts in certain sections take a heavy toll of amenity fittings and at times it becomes difficult to make good the deficiencies promptly.

Conversion of metre gauge railway lines

709. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to convert metre gauge railway lines in various parts of the country into broad gauge by 1996-97;

(b) if so, what are the details of the lines to be converted Region-wise; and

(c) what would be the estimated cost of conversion of one kilo metre railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) An action plan for converting MG/NG lines to BG to move towards unigauge has been drawn up. 6,000 kms. of MG/NG lines under this action plan are proposed to be converted by 1996-97 i.e., end of the 8th Five Year Plan.

(b) A Statement showing details of lines included in the action plan

State wise is attached. [See Appendix CLXIV, Annexure No. 16]

(c) Rs. 50-60 lakhs per kilo-metre

Earning of D.T.C.

710. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been considerable increase in the revenue of DTC since the recent hike in fares and if so. the details of revenue earned month-wise since the hike;

(b) wehther it is also a fact that DTC has decided not to increase its fleet of buses;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government have already taken or propose to take to meet the increasing traffic need of Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. The month-wise details of increase in income since fare revision are given below:—

(Rs. in crores)

Month	1991	1992	Additional Income
January	10.66	15·65	4·99
February	10·01	15·13	5·12
March	10·53	15·54	5a01
April	10·45	15·93	5·48
May	9·68	15·90	6·22
June	9·82	15·58	5·76

(b) and (c) Due to financial constraints, acquisition of buses on addition account has not been found feasible.

(d) On the recommendation of Government, Delhi Admn. have implemented a scheme of 100 special Stage Carriage Permits to be given to private operators to provide fast and comfortable travel facilities to a section of the commuters, who can pay a little more than the ordinary fares. Green Line Services were introduced by DTC at a flat fare of Rs. 4 per head per trip.

Government have also recommended to the Delhi Admn. a scheme of 3000 stage carriage permits to be given to Private Operators.

Road Bridges schemes of Rajasthan

711. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals for Inter-State Road Bridges schemes of estimated cost of Rs. 32 crores under Inter-State and E and I Loan Assistance Programme were submitted by the State Government of Rajasthan to the Director-General, Ministry of Surface Transport in May, 1991;

(b) if so, what action has so far been taken by Government under the